

Transportation and Communications Committee

Action Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, September 2, 2004

Meeting Location: SCAG Offices
818 West 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017

The following minutes are a summary of actions taken by the Transportation and Communications Committee. Audio recordings of the meeting may be heard in the SCAG office during office hours.

Committee Chair: Lee Ann Garcia, Grand Terrace
Committee Vice Chair: Harry Baldwin, San Gabriel

Members Present

Aldinger, Jim
Bone, Lou
Brown, Art
Buckley, Tom
Burke, Yvonne
Dale, Lawrence
Daniels, Gene
Dixon, Richard
Flickinger, Bonnie
Gurule, Frank
Hernandez, Robert
Herrera, Carol
Lowe, Robin
Miller, Llewellyn
O'Connor, Pam
Proo, Bea
Ridgeway, Tod
Roberts, Ron
Rutherford, Mark
Spence, David
Stanford, Dick
Szerlip, Don
Talbot, Paul
Uranga, Tonia Reyes

Representing

Manhattan Beach
Tustin
Buena Park
Lake Elsinore
Los Angeles County
Barstow
Paramount
Lake Forest
Moreno Valley
Cudahy
Anaheim
Diamond Bar
Hemet
Claremont
Santa Monica
Pico Rivera
Newport Beach
Temecula
Westlake Village
Arroyo Verdugo
Azusa
South Bay Cities
Alhambra
Long Beach

Members Absent

Adams, Steve
Becerra, Glen
Biane, Paul
Cole, George
Davis, Bill
DeYoung, Cathryn
Dunlap, Judy
Fasana, John
George, Gary
Herzog, Peter
Isadore Hall,
Keenan, Tim
Lowenthal, Bonnie
Marshall, Patsy
Mikels, Judy
Millhouse, Keith
Nuaimi, Mark
Ovitt, Gary
Pettis, Greg
Pieper, Will
Smith, Charles
Smith, Greig
Smyth, Cameron
Sykes, Tom
Tyler, Sidney

Representing

Riverside
Simi Valley
San Bernardino County
Bell, Gateway Cities
Simi Valley
Laguna Niguel
Inglewood
Duarte
Redlands
Lake Forrest
Compton
Cypress
Long Beach
Buena Park
Ventura County
Moorpark
Fontana
Ontario
Cathedral City
Desert Hot Springs
Orange County
Los Angeles
Santa Clarita
Walnut
Pasadena

New Members

None

Representing

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1.0 CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lee Ann Garcia called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

There were no public comments.

3.0 REVIEW and PRIORITIZE

4.0 CONSENT CALENDAR

4.1 Approval Item

4.1.1 Action Minutes of August 5, 2004

4.2 Receive and File

4.2.2 Intergovernmental Review (IGR)

4.2.3 SCAG Legislative Matrix

4.2.4 Regional Transportation Plan Checklist

MOTION was made to approve the consent calendar items, SECONDED, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

5.0 ACTION ITEMS

5.1 Draft 2004 Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP)

Hasan Ikhata, SCAG staff, began the presentation by stating MTA staff will be recommending to their Board of reprogramming two hundred to three hundred million dollars to put into the TCM for implementation. Staff recommended that the Regional Council approve the TIP with the understanding that the MTA Board will act favorably on this issue. Staff will then submit it to the Federal and State agencies for their review.

Mr. Ikhata then stated that if for some reason the MTA Board does not favorably act on the action at their September 23rd meeting, the subject of the RTP will come up once again at our October committee meeting.

Mr. Ikhata then went on to introduce Mr. Roger Snoble, Chief Executive Officer of MTA, to say a few words on the subject. Mr. Snoble expressed that the major challenge for the last several years has been the large problem that the State of California has caused by not allocating transportation funds back to all of the

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commissions. In Los Angeles County alone, two billion dollars have withheld, obstructing our ability to deliver projects.

Over this summer the Staff at MTA has been working on a ten-year financial forecast so that MTA can assure these projects can continue to operate once built. We have to prove to the Federal Government that we can operate the projects for the next twenty years. Consequently, MTA has been looking at ways that they can restore all of the important projects in their short-term transportation plan and see if there are ways they can continue to add other important projects that are crucial to the Region. It is likely that the ten-year forecast will be presented to the MTA Board in October. The projects that are important to the air quality process, the TCM's, in Los Angeles County can not wait until that time frame so we are taking these projects to MTA's Board this month.

Mr. Snoble indicated that MTA would pursue bonding as well as reallocate funds in order to fund TCM's in the RTIP. This action will be taken to the MTA board at their September 23 meeting.

Ron Roberts, City of Temecula and President of SCAG, thanked Mr. Snoble and the MTA Board for taking the action to hopefully resolve our short-term conformity issues. Mr. Roberts additionally stated that he hoped that MTA could work with SCAG in unity as a Southern California team when it goes to Washington, D.C. As a group we need to show solidarity so we do not lose funding to our region due to developments in other parts of the region, such as the Bay Bridge issue.

Dick Stanford, Azusa, commented that he was concerned about the extension of the Gold Line II not being on the list of priority projects because it is not a TCM. Mr. Stanford then stated that he felt MTA had thus far been a blockage to the extension and requested that MTA support Gold Line II getting it to a TCM and beyond.

Mr. Snobel advised Mr. Stanford that the Gold Line II extension is not in MTA's Short Range Plan but that it is in their long-range plan. MTA's Ten- Year Forecast will come forward with some ways to address this issue. It will come up with ways to make local commitments, to tie in with the federal commitments, to at least make the extension to Azusa area possible within the next five to ten year time frame. One of the problems that needs to be addressed if we were able to build the Gold Line is the funding for operation. This also needs to be addressed in the TenYear Forecast.

At the end of the presentation and comments, Mr. Ikhrata asked that if there were no further questions he would like to move a recommendation to the Regional Council for approval of the Resolution for the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

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Motion was MOVED, SECONDED, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to recommend adoption of Resolution #04-453-2 for the Regional Transportation Improvement Program.

5.2 Maglev 2004 Conference, Shanghai

Zahi Faranesh, SCAG staff, gave a brief overview of the Maglev Conference Shanghai will be hosting in October 26-28, 2004.

Staff requested that the TCC approve an expenditure of \$4,000 to send two representatives to the Maglev conference in Shanghai.

Motion was MOVED, SECONDED, and UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED to authorize expenditure to send two SCAG representatives to the Maglev Conference in Shanghai, China.

6.0 INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1 Logistics and Distribution: An Answer to Regional Upward Social Mobility

John Husing, President, Economics & Politics, Inc., presented a summary of a specially-commissioned SCAG report which describes how the logistics industry will be a source of job advancement and good pay for the expanding minimally educated segments of Southern California's population. It also describes several regional strategies that will help ensure that the expected growth in logistics can occur, bringing these and other benefits to the region.

6.2 Watch the Road

Lan Nguyen, LADOT, provided an overview of a major safety campaign underway in the region. Watch the Road is an education and awareness campaign designed to reduce the bad behaviors of roadway users in Los Angeles County that contribute to traffic crashes. The campaign targets drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists; its goals are to save lives, reduce injuries and relieve traffic congestion. The campaign was formally launched in May of this year and is expected to last about eighteen months.

6.3 State Transportation Funding

Due to lack of time this item was held over.

6.4 State and Federal Legislative Update

Due to lack of time this item was held over.

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6.5 HOV Lane Performance Study

Due to lack of time this item was held over.

7.0 MAGLEV TASK FORCE REPORT

No report at this time.

8.0 CHAIR REPORT

No report at this time.

9.0 STAFF REPORT

No report at this time.

10.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Further discussion of John Husing's presentation on logistics and distribution industries and its potential to enhance regional upward social mobility in the SCAG region.

11.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Harry Baldwin, San Gabriel, stated that he wanted to give the committee members the opportunity to participate in the original transportation plan for Los Angeles the El Camino Real, the NAFTA quarter, that stopped at the San Gabriel Mission. The event will be held on Saturday, September 2, 2004. The Pompadours, the original settler's of Los Angeles, their relatives and descendents will be marching from San Gabriel Mission to Los Angeles for a celebration at Olvera Street.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

Chair Garcia adjourned the meeting at 12:07 p.m. The next committee meeting will be held on October 7, 2004, 10:30 a.m., at the SCAG Office.

Action Minutes Approved by:



Hasan Ikhrata, Director
Planning & Policy Department